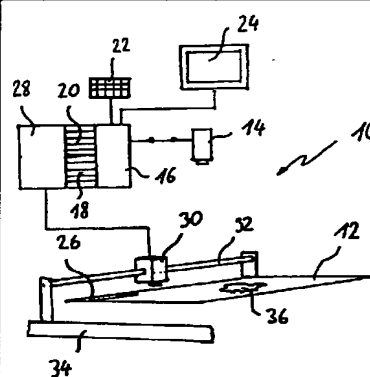


<p>2000-054330/05 D18 MAAS/ 1998.05.28  MAASS R *DE 19824304-A1  1998.05.28 1998-1024304(+1998DE-1024304) (1999.12.02) C14B  1/28, D06H 3/08, G01B 11/24, 11/30, G01J 3/46, G06K 9/60, 9/66  <b>Apparatus for classifying pieces of leather, having a camera to scan the leather on a digitizing bed and a computer to evaluate the data</b>  <b>C2000-014403</b>  Addnl. Data: ROELL F</p>	<p>D(7-A)</p> <p>irregularities in the piece of leather (36) by comparison with a reference data storage unit (18) and enabling the piece of leather to be classified as belonging to a particular quality grade. In a further claimed embodiment the evaluation unit (16) is used to program the control unit (28) of a cutter (30).</p>
<p><b>NOVELTY</b>  Scanning device for evaluating pieces of leather using a digital camera.</p> <p><b>DETAILED DESCRIPTION</b>  A device for classifying pieces of leather comprising a digitizing bed (12) to accommodate at least one piece of leather (36); at least one device for clamping the piece of leather (36) to the digitizing bed (12); at least one camera (14) to scan the digitizing bed (12); and an evaluation unit (16) receiving data supplied by the camera (14), containing detectors, particularly edge detectors, to determine the shape of the piece of leather, and containing a neuronal network having first stage brightness- and/or color detectors to detect</p>	<p><b>USE</b>  For automatic evaluation of pieces of leather with respect to chosen parameters such as size, shape, color, surface condition, etc., and optionally using the output signal to control a cutter. The device can also be used to assess pieces of plastic or textile materials.</p> <p><b>ADVANTAGE</b>  The device allows untrained personnel to assess pieces of leather for quality and suitability for use in particular applications in place of the highly trained skilled personnel required previously.</p> <p><b>DESCRIPTION OF DRAWING</b>  The drawing shows the leather classifying device.</p> <p>DE 19824304-A+</p>

digitizer bed 12  
digital camera 14  
evaluation unit 16  
reference data storage unit 18  
data storage device for data from evaluated and/or classified objects 20  
keyboard 22  
monitor screen 24  
reference surface 26  
cutter control unit 28  
cutter, e.g. laser cutting device 30  
lengthwise cutter guide 32  
crosswise cutter guides 34  
piece of leather for assessment or cutting 36

#### EXAMPLE

No specific examples given.



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